

**EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS**

2433 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.,  
Washington, D. C. 20008  
Tel. # (202) 234-5414  
Fax # (202) 232-3236

June 25, 2001

Paul Seligman, MD, MPH  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Studies  
Office of International Health Programs  
US Department of Energy  
EH-63/GTN/270 Corporate Center  
19901 Germantown Road  
Germantown, MD 20874-1290

Dear Dr. Seligman:

I am writing to you to express my deepest appreciation for all your assistance during your tenure at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

Under your watch, I believe that significant improvements have been made in our ability to identify and respond to issues of common concern. This is most notable in our annual meetings and our joint communiqués that establish common goals for the upcoming years. Also, the documents that you helped declassify and transfer to the Marshall Islands are enabling Marshallese citizens to have a more complete understanding of the effects of the US nuclear weapons testing program on their health, and on their environment. Generations of Marshallese will benefit from these documents. It is also safe to say that as a result of your efforts the RMI and DOE better recognize the importance of addressing medical problems in a holistic manner; this is dramatically different from the medical program that was in place when you arrived. It is also important to note that we are focusing for the first time on the need to improve local capacity to address radiological health and environmental needs in the RMI. These are just a few of your accomplishments from an RMI perspective, but they are substantial and praiseworthy.

I want you to know that the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) greatly respects and appreciates all that you were able to accomplish. On a personal note, I will miss working with you. It was comforting for me to know that you were always willing to meet with me and to talk openly, and frankly about delicate, and often difficult subjects.

I hope you will stay in contact. Please drop by, or call anytime.

Warm Regards,

Banny deBrum  
Ambassador

Cc: Geoffrey J. Judge, Deputy Assistant Secretary